

The Messenger.

WILL THE CONGRESS DECLARE FOR CUBAN INDEPENDENCE

It is noticeable what a change has taken place in regard to Cuba within a month or less. It is very certain that the article in the North American Review by Hon. Hannis Taylor, ex-minister to Spain, and his subsequent speech in New York state, have had a decided influence over numbers of the congress, and perhaps the cabinet. He was abused for writing the paper referred to and a certain class of organs indulged in captious and very free criticism, but he was not moved. The truth is he voiced the sentiments and reflected the feelings of a large element of Americans who were neither plotters nor "jingoists." They had grown tired of the butcheries of men and women and the ruin of a rich island lying so close to the American coast, and they wanted the cruelties stopped. For a long time all that most of the friends of Cuba ventured to favor or demand was a recognition of belligerency by the American government. But quite recently all this is changed, and the cry now is for a more aggressive attitude—to recognize the independence of Cuba. It is very probable that this will come before six months pass. It may come before the first session of the new congress ends. We notice that Senator Mason of Illinois, republican, and Senator Mills, democrat, of Texas, stand for the favoring independence. Senator Gallinger, of New Hampshire, republican, favors belligerency only; Senator Teller, populist, favors belligerency and more, while Jeter Pritchard, of North Carolina, by way of Tennessee, has not come to a conclusion, beyond belligerency. The recognition of belligerency at this stage of the game will be practically of little advantage. The picture that ex-Minister Taylor gives of Spain and the reform it promises, in his address at Cornell University, ought to have real effect upon American legislation as it must have upon the people who shall read what he says. He is showing himself a decidedly able man in public address as had before proved himself in diplomacy, and had years ago in his most memorable work on the British constitution. A man of character, of acquisition, of rare abilities, of courage of conviction the Spanish sympathizing press can not howl him down. He chose to use his large observation, his knowledge gained while in Spain representing his country in an official capacity, and he was pounced upon all around for bad faith, bad manners, etc. His speeches (two in number) have impressed even some who were swift to censure him for his contribution to the North American Review. Of the reform—so called—mediated by Spain for Cuba, Mr. Taylor said this at Cornell:

"Cuba, in the agony of an economic crisis had appealed to Spain to give her the power to so regulate her own affairs as to make bread; the reply was a stone in the form of the sham Abarazua law, which was to worthless to excite even the flattery of hope. The only thing like a local legislature that law proposed was a council of administration, one half of whose members the Crown could appoint, and whose presiding officer was the governor general, who was not only authorized to suspend the council as a whole, but also to suspend individual members of the council of administration as long as a number of councillors sufficient to form a quorum remains.

"That phantom body, which the 'Vice Royal patron' could set aside at will, was only endowed with advisory powers. And yet I desire to impress upon you the fact that that is the only form of a local legislature that Spain has so far offered to Cuba under the sanction of national law. Why, then, should anybody wonder that the Abarazua law should have been contemptuously set aside at the beginning of the recent conflict as unworthy of consideration? Such was the condition of things when Senor Sagasta was called upon to put down the present revolt at the point of the sword."

That surely is another instance of juggling with methods of relief and offering a scorpion when Cubans sued for blessings. What intelligent, patriotic Cuban could be deceived with such a pretense or be satisfied to await the issue of such a false offering? Mark you Mr. Taylor is not only a close observer, an able writer, but he has had the peculiar advantages of four years study in the Spanish court. He is thoroughly posted. Of the real situation now the ex-minister says this:

"During the last three years Spain has expended in the Cuban war twice as much money and has sent to the island twice as many soldiers as Great Britain employed during our entire revolutionary struggle. The result is that the military and pecuniary resources of Spain have been exhausted without results.

"Out of the 200,000 men she has sent to the island, not over 70,000 are now effective, and if she attempts to force a large body of fresh soldiers to go from the peninsula, there will be mutiny and resistance. She has already expended in the present war at least \$300,000,000, and her wasted treasury cannot stand the drain much longer. These facts are all perfectly well known to the Cuban revolutionists, who also perfectly understand that their complete triumph is a certainty in the near future."

With this clear statement of facts and results, who can believe that Spain will be able to crush out "the rebellion?" The war must continue with its bloody issues and with devastation and terrific sufferings, unless civilization steps in and says this butchering must cease, this war of reprisal must cease, this destruction of a once rich island must end at once. Continues Mr. Taylor:

"I have thus attempted to demonstrate to you that there is absolutely

neither hope nor prospect of the Cubans and Spaniards settling their differences upon the basis of mutual concessions, for the very good reason that Spain herself is resolved not to make any genuine concessions, and the Cubans are equally resolved not to accept them even if they were at this late hour honestly made. If I am right in that conclusion, then the present heart-breaking struggle must go on under our very eyes until the island is destroyed, or until one of the other of the contending parties is exhausted—unless the government of the United States intervenes and commands that peace must be re-established."

The Messenger does not belong to the "jingo" class. It does not run with the annexation of foreign territory "cranks." It would not go out enlarging our already wide borders and bringing a mongrel, mixed, undesirable population. It wants to see no complications growing out of foreign aggressions on the one hand, nor does it desire armed interference in other's quarrels on the other hand. But if Mr. Taylor is correct in his conclusions—if Cuba is to be ruined, blasted, and its population practically wiped out, it would be the part of wisdom and humanity for the United States to intervene to save the consummation of ruin, and if necessary to invite the intervention with them of England and possibly some European powers. The United States have failed to do their duty under the circumstances. Our government has been too indifferent, too inert, perhaps even cowardly. We make one more quotation from Mr. Taylor's address:

"Whenever the affairs of one state are so bound up in and interlaced with the affairs of another state that the international difficulties and conditions of the one seriously interfere during a considerable period of time with the internal peace or prosperity of the other, then, upon the principle of self-defense, the injured state has the right to intervene in the affairs of the offending state in order to re-establish her own tranquility."

"In Europe the right of intervention can only be asserted through a concert of the great powers, because by their co-operation the balance of power is preserved. In America, as we are the one overshadowing and dominating power, the duty of intervention in an extreme case falls upon us alone."

He thinks this country should intervene without any reference to other great countries, and because of our great nearness to Cuba and the closeness of business transactions.

He opposes a mere recognition of belligerent rights for the Cubans, believing it would probably cause a war through "complications that might result," and he therefore favors the prompt recognition of Cuban independence, and says it "would not give to Spain under the laws of nations a casus belli. And yet such a mortal blow delivered by us now would so completely hit the mark that the fierce bird of prey that is still whetting its beak upon the vitals of Cuba would fall from its perch pierced through and through."

The congress meets next Monday when the friends of Cuba will take early action probably and it will be then seen what shall be the attitude of the puissant Republic in the cruel, remorseless war waging near its borders.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

STATEMENTS OF THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE SEMI-WEEKLY MESSENGER WERE RECENTLY MAILED, AND WHILE A GREAT MANY HAVE RESPONDED, THERE ARE MANY YET IN ARREARS AND WE TRUST THIS REMINDER WILL CAUSE ALL WHO HAVE NEGLECTED THEIR ACCOUNT WITH US TO TAKE PROMPT ACTION. THE DATE ON THE LABEL OF EACH PAPER SHOWS THE TIME TO WHICH THE SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID, AND THE ACCOUNT CAN BE EASILY DETERMINED WITHOUT WAITING FOR A STATEMENT FROM US. A THOROUGH REVISION OF THE LIST WILL BE MADE AT AN EARLY DATE AND ALL DELINQUENTS WILL BE PLACED ON OUR "BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE."

HARD TO BEAT FAIRMING IN NORTH CAROLINA

What a fine climate North Carolina is blessed with, and what great advantages fall to her people. It is not infrequent that two crops of fruit are reported in one season, or two crops of food from the same land. In yesterday's Messenger, from Granville came the report of two crops grown this year on two acres. The first crop was thirty two-horse loads of rye from two acres. The second crop on the same land, was ten barrels or fifty bushels of corn per acre. That is very fine indeed. A day or two ago another county reported three crops this year on the same land. Some one writes to the New Bern paper that in Pamlico county a farmer made twelve bales of cotton on four acres. If the bales are of regulation size that is indeed superb cropping. Read what follows:

We heard Rev. Charles P. Jones, still living in the west, a native of North Carolina, long time connected with the

North Carolina conference, M. E. church, author of a valuable book and a capital preacher, say in a public talk, at Oxford, in the Methodist church, that below New Bern, or near New Bern, in Jones or some county not far off, we forget which, for it is nearly forty years since we heard him, that he had known fifty bushels of corn to be grown upon land between the Neuse and the Trent rivers that was never ploughed or hoed, or worked in any way. A hole made by a peg received the grains of corn and the crop made itself. We know the late Thomas W. Harris, of Halifax, of blessed memory, an alumnus of the university, more than fifty years a steward on the old Roanoke circuit, the first one formed in North Carolina, and one of the wealthiest men of his county or section, went to Beaufort county after the war, and purchased a large plantation near, we think, the old town of Bath. His object was to plant cotton. He told us after experimenting that the land was positively so rich he could not make cotton profitably. It grew so enormously and so thick that the bolls could not mature. He was forced to abandon cotton and plant corn. We knew Dr. Robert Patterson, of Halifax, a nephew of the late Bishop Atkinson, to average more than 100 bushels of corn on some fifteen or twenty acres, and that too in war times. So it is not impossible to make three bales to the acre provided the land like Mr. Harris's and Dr. Patterson's is not too rich for cotton. In Halifax county, as we have more than once mentioned, we know that the late Littlebury Manning made on one acre enriched by him, three bales and exhibited them at a Weldon fair, taking a premium. So what has been done may be done again.

Do not let fruit growing, a most important industry be overlooked here. Excellent returns are reported this year. What have been accomplished is but a foretaste that awaits North Carolina if its farmers and others will give their time or a part of it to growing fruit of different kinds, and learn how to prepare it properly for shipping to the various markets. The state labor commissioner will report that fourteen counties ship 90,000 barrels; Haywood and Swain 15,000 each; Caldwell and Wilkes, 10,000; Yancey, Clay, Jackson and Surry 8,000. There are many localities in this state where peaches are seldom killed, and especially is this the case in the thermal belt region. Apples are kept all winter in ordinary cellars. It is destined to be the greatest apple-growing region in America. Let our people wake up. They have all about them a veritable Land of Goshen. To abandon North Carolina for other states is folly.

Why allow yourself to be slowly tortured at the stake of disease? Chills and Fever will undermine, and eventually break down the strongest constitution. Febrile-Cure (Sweet Chill Tonic with Iron) is more effective than quinine, and being combined with iron is an excellent Tonic and Nerve medicine. It is pleasant to take, and is sold under positive guarantee to cure or money "just as good" kind don't effect cures. Sold by J. C. Shepard, J. H. Hardin and H. L. Fentress.

LOOKING AT ELECTION FIGURES

Lately we saw in some northern paper an attempt to show how greatly the anti-republican vote had fallen off in Kansas, and consequently how greatly the gain for the republicans. We do not recall the figures nor do we question their correctness. It surprised us to see such a triumph in "bleeding Kansas" where the populists movement had been so strong and where there had been such widespread clamor over bad crops, low prices and heavy mortgages. This year the prices and products have almost doubled the amount of last year in dollars and cents. Perhaps the people out there attributed it all to the republican gain instead of to a merciful and smiling Providence.

But let us glance at other states and see how it has fared with the republicans. We showed some time ago from the election returns that in six states a change of 25,000 votes would have elected Bryan. In ten states the republicans had 141,025 majority in 1896. We find the following table in an exchange we suppose is correct. It is the vote in six states for two consecutive years:

	1896.	1897.
Pennsylvania	295,972	144,312
Massachusetts	173,365	85,957
Maryland	22,224	7,109
Ohio	47,497	28,135
Iowa	65,552	30,000
New Jersey	87,692	8,245

Totals 701,402 303,758
Republican loss in six States in one year..... 397,644

It will be recalled that in the union McKinley led Bryan by 651,016 majority. So in six states the major's majority is reduced nearly 400,000. In nine months his administration has been so unpopular, so detrimental, such a dead failure save in increasing pensions, increasing taxation and adding to the oppressions of the people, that at the very first election the majority of forty-five states is cut down nearly two-thirds. Now take two other states and see results:

	Rep. maj.	Dem. maj.
New York	268,469	17,396
Kentucky	281	17,396

Totals 268,750 85,935
Republican loss in two states..... 364,685
Add republican loss in six states as above 397,644

Total republican loss in eight States from 1896 to 1897..... 762,339
That will do for the first year and in only eight states. The majority of

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1896 is lost and by more than 100,000 over. McKinley had 651,016 majority. Loss in 1897, 762,332—loss 111,316. If you will add the democratic majorities in the late election in Nebraska and Virginia you will swell farther the volume indicating the marvelous change. The people are weary already of McKinleyism. It is a dead weight upon the people. They should compel their senators and representatives to be hereafter elected to very greatly reduce public expenditures. The more than \$500,000,000 annually, should be so heavily razed as to make it not more than \$350,000,000, and then by degrees cut down still farther until this government is run upon a proper economical and honest basis so that the yearly expenditures for all purposes shall not exceed \$300,000,000. We repeat again that President Buchanan's administration for four years did not exceed an average of \$70,000,000 a year. We have not the figures at hand, but such is our recollection and belief. In four years he required no more than \$280,000,000. The population was some 31,000,000. Surely if that rate of expenditure was sufficient with 31,000,000 of people, \$300,000,000 should be enough with some 70,000,000. The government in honest, capable hands, can be conducted efficiently by an expenditure of as much money in a year or more, as Buchanan required for four years. It is an outrage upon the people that for the ten last years the expenditures have been so enormous. The people must correct the evil for politicians will never do it.

AS TO THE MOVEMENT AGAINST BUTLER

A dispatch from Raleigh to The New York Evening Post is possibly misleading. It is concerning "Senator Butler's rash speech"—better to call it infamous speech—and the idea conveyed is that there is a movement on foot to drive him from the senate. The heading is "Threats in North Carolina to force him out of the senate." We suppose it is empty threat by disgusted men. We apprehend that no democrats are so deeply incensed as to try to attempt an impossible thing. Butler denies and evidently lies for three reputable ministers of the Gospel, a physician of character, and other men of known personal worth make affidavit to the fact that Butler did say as charged. The Raleigh special has this:

"Populists who are opposed to Butler's leadership are scourging him with this new whip. Some populist papers declare that he should resign from the senate and as chairman of the populist national committee, and threats have been made to go before the next legislature and demand that his resignation be asked."

Beyond a doubt it would be a very great relief to all parties if Butler could be bounced. The demagogue only lacked this slanderous assault to complete his political ruin. Personally, but few democrats have had any confidence in his integrity or respect for the man. The democrats would rejoice to see a better, purer, truer man in his place. Republicans would rejoice if he could be ousted for it would open up a chance for one of their gang. The better class of populists—the men of character, who have been sincere and honest in their advocacy of certain measures, would be greatly relieved of a burden if Butler, the traducer and blatherskite, were taken down and put away in some obscure hole where he could work no iniquity.

Suffered 20 Years.



MRS. MARY LEWIS, wife of a prominent farmer, and well known by all old residents near Belmont, N. C., writes: "For twenty-seven years I had been a constant sufferer from nervous prostration, and paid large sums of money for doctors and advertised remedies without benefit. Three years ago my condition was alarming; the least noise would startle and unnerve me. I was unable to sleep, had a number of sinking spells and slowly grew worse. I began using Dr. Miles' Restorative Nerve and Liver Pills. At first the medicine seemed to have no effect, but after taking a few bottles I began to notice a change; I rested better at night, my appetite began to improve and I rapidly grew better, until now I am as nearly restored to health as one of my age may expect. God bless Dr. Miles' Nerve."

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A big line of fine hand-made Indian Baskets for lunch, fruit, hamper, waste paper, wall racks, flowers. This beautiful line of Baskets are all new, fresh and lovely goods. I bought them very cheap and will sell them at half what other merchants ask for them. They run in price from 10c and 25c to \$1.50 and \$2.50. Look at them; they are beautiful presents.

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